

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A process for producing a vinyl chloride polymer, comprising polymerizing vinyl chloride or a monomer mixture  
5 comprised of mainly vinyl chloride in an aqueous medium in a polymerization vessel fitted with a reflux condenser, said process comprising:

starting to add

(A) an anti-foam agent, and

10 (B) a partially saponified polyvinyl alcohol with an average degree of polymerization of 100 to 500 and a saponification degree of 75 to 85 mole% to a polymerization system during the operation of said reflux condenser, and

15 continuing the addition of (A) and (B) stated above until the completion of recovery of unreacted monomers from said polymerization vessel.

20 2. The process according to claim 1, wherein said anti-foaming agent of the component (A) is a silicone anti-foaming agent, a polyalkylene glycol-based anti-foaming agent, or an amide anti-foaming agent.

25 3. The process according to claim 2, wherein said anti-foaming agent of the component (A) is a silicone anti-foaming agent.

30 4. The process according to claim 1, wherein said polyvinyl alcohol of the component (B) has an average degree of polymerization of 260 to 320 and a saponification degree of 78 to 82 mole%.

5. The process according to claim 1, wherein said anti-foaming agent of the component (A) is added in an amount of 10 to 500 ppm on a weight basis in terms of solid matter relative to the entire monomers.

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6. The process according to claim 1, wherein said polyvinyl alcohol of the component (B) is added in an amount of 100 to 1500 ppm on a weight basis relative to the entire monomers.

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7. The process according to claim 1, wherein said polymerization is carried out as suspension polymerization or emulsion polymerization.

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8. The process according to claim 1, wherein said monomer mixture is comprised of vinyl chloride and other vinyl monomer copolymerizable with vinyl chloride.

9. The process according to claim 8, wherein said other vinyl monomer is selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters, acrylic esters, methacrylic esters, olefins, vinyl ethers, maleic anhydride, acrylonitrile, styrene, and vinylidene chloride.

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